

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/425,234
		Filing Date	October 25, 1999
		First Named Inventor	RABIE
		Art Unit	1724
		Examiner Name	POPOVICS, Robert J.
		Attorney Docket Number	4320-91
Sheet	1	of	4

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
RJP		US-5,403,479	Apr. 4, 1995	Smith et al.	
		US- 5,647,988	Jul. 15 1997	Kawanishi et al.	
		US- 6,331,251	Dec 18, 2001	Del Vecchio et al.	
		US- 5,393,433	Feb 28, 1995	Espenan et al.	
		US- 5,944,997	Aug 31, 1999	Pedersen et al.	
		US- 5,783,083	Jul 21, 1998	Henshaw et al.	
		US- 6,045,698	Apr 4, 2000	Cote et al.	
		US- 5,607,593	Mar 4, 1997	Cote et al.	
		US- 5,643,455	Jul 1, 1997	Kopp et al.	
		US-			
					RECEIVED JUN 11 2003 OFFICE OF PETITIONS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RJP		WO 97/18887	May 29, 1997			Claims
		English language abstract of JP52004481	Jan 13, 1977			
		JP 09075689	Mar 25, 1997			
		JP 08252438	Oct 1, 1996			
		JP 07047245	Feb 21, 1995			
		JP 08099025	Apr 16, 1996			
		JP 07136474	May 30, 1995			
		JP 11128920	May 18, 1999			
		JP 10066844	Mar 10, 1998			
		JP 08229362	Sep 10, 1996			
	JP 11019488	Jan 26, 1999				
	JP 07116482	May 9, 1995				

Examiner Signature	ROBERT J. POPOVICS (RJP)	Date Considered	9-17-03
-----------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 4

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/425,234
Filing Date	October 25, 1999
First Named Inventor	RABIE
Group Art Unit	1724
Examiner Name	POPOVICS, Robert J.
Attorney Docket Number	4320-091

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
RJP		Declaration Under 37 CFR §1.132 of Ake A. Deutschmann, executed June 10, 2003	RECEIVED
		Office Action in U.S. Application No 09/916,247, dated May 16, 2003	JUN 11 2003
		Office Action in U.S. Application No 09/916,247, dated November 25, 2002	OFFICE OF PETITIONS
		International Preliminary Examination Report in International Application No. PCT/CA00/00876, dated November 7, 2001	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.12.3 CHEMICAL CLEANING METHOD OF SUBMARINE TYPE CERAMIC MEMBRANE SEPARATION SYSTEM: March 1998, page 13.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.24 CLEANING METHOD OF IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE FILTER: page 13.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.30 MEMBRANE SEPARATION METHOD: Sept. 1996, page 16.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.31 IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE FILTRATION SYSTEM: Sept. 1996, page 16.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.34 IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE SEPARATION SYSTEM: Jan. 1997, page 16.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.35 IN SITU CLEANING METHOD OF IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE FILTRATION SYSTEM: Jan. 1997, page 16.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.43 IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE SEPARATION SYSTEM: Jan. 1997, page 18-19.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.47.1 SUBMARINE TYPE MEMBRANE SEPARATOR AND MEMBRANE CLEANING METHOD OF THE SAME: Dec. 1997, page 31.	

Examiner Signature	ROBERT J. POPOVICS PRIMARY EXAMINER	RJP	Date Considered	9-17-03
-----------------------	--	------------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/425,234
		Filing Date	October 25, 1999
		First Named Inventor	RABIE
		Group Art Unit	1724
		Examiner Name	POPOVICS, Robert J.
		Attorney Docket Number	4320-091
Sheet	3	of	4

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
RJP		"Membrane News", Section 4.54 CHEMICAL CLEANING METHOD AND SYSTEM OF IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE FILTER: Jan. 1997, page 22.	
		"Membrane News", Section 4.56 CLEANING METHOD OF MEMBRANE MODULE: 1997, page 19.	
		"Membrane News", Section 5.28 IMMERSION TYPE MEMBRANE SEPARATOR: Aug. 1995, page 14.	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153239	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153240	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153241	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153127	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153128	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153129	
		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153130	
	Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153131		
	Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153132		

Examiner Signature	ROBERT J. POPOVICS PRIMARY EXAMINER	Date Considered	9/17/03
-----------------------	--	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/425,234
		Filing Date	October 25, 1999
		First Named Inventor	RABIE
		Group Art Unit	1724
		Examiner Name	POPOVICS, Robert J.
Sheet 4 of 4	Attorney Docket Number	4320-091	

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
RJP		Derwent Publications Ltd., XP002153133	
RECEIVED JUN 11 2003 OFFICE OF PETITIONS			

Examiner Signature	ROBERT J. POPOVICS PRIMARY EXAMINER (RJP)	Date Considered	9-17-03
-----------------------	--	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.